



## NEVADA PARTNERS

September 21, 2011

Penny Woods  
BLM Project Manager  
PO Box 12000  
Reno, NV 89520

REC'D - BLM - NSO  
9:00 AM SEP 26 2011

Dear Ms. Woods,

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President/Executive Director

702-924-2100

[www.Nevadapartners.org](http://www.Nevadapartners.org)  
710 West Lake Mead Blvd.,  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

On behalf of Nevada Partners, Inc., I am writing in support of the Bureau of Land Management's proposed action as the preferred alternative for the Southern Nevada Water Authority's Groundwater Development Project.

Nevada Partners is a community-based, nonprofit agency in North Las Vegas, Nevada. As an organization committed to building a healthy and sustainable community, we appreciate and understand the significance of the issues under review by your office regarding the application for rights-of-way, particularly in the context of potential environmental impacts. However, we believe the SNWA will construct its project in a responsible and sustainable manner, while reaching out to stakeholders throughout our community and the state.

Currently, southern Nevada depends on the Colorado River for almost all of its drinking-water needs. As drought conditions continue to impact Colorado River snow pack and water flows, it is imperative that local water managers diversify the community's water resource options. Having a diverse selection of available water supplies will provide greater protection from future drought, and unknown implications from expected climate variation. Lake Mead serves as an ominous reminder that our community cannot continue to rely on a single source of water—a lesson that is more important now more than it has ever been to our community and our state.

A diverse water supply is essential for southern Nevada to continue rebuilding from the economic challenges facing the state. Without one, investors and tourists alike will lose confidence in the community. We urge the BLM to grant the rights-of-way the Southern Nevada Water Authority has applied for as part of their plan of development.

Sincerely,

Monica Ford  
President/Executive Director  
Nevada Partners, Inc